UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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Anne Arundel	
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DESCRIPTION					
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CONDITION	(C	heck One)			eck One)
	Altered	XX Unaltered		Moved	XX Original Site

The Mount Moriah Church is an exceptional example of small scale Victorian Gothic Ecclesiastical architecture, and is an important contribution to the architectural collection of Annapolis. Two and one-half stories in height, the Church is constructed in the typical auditorium plan, with the Church proper on the second floor and a school and meeting room on the ground floor. The exterior walls are of finely detailed brick work laid in American bond, with three belt courses, brownstone impost blocks and crow stepped gable ends, all capped with a metal cornice with wood finial at the ridge of the roof. Gothic arched and lancet windows with molded wood geometric tracery decorate the front facade at the second floor level, with tall double hung windows flanking the massive arched double entrance door. All of the front windows are glazed with stained glass of good quality and are of the period 1874 when it is believed the church was remodeled. The windows in the side walls are framed with stained glass.

The interior of the first floor has been considerably altered, but four slender cast iron columns remain, as does some door and window trim and two paneled transom lit doors. The stairs leading to the second floor are original to the 1874 period, with decorative cut-outs in the stair walls, beaded paneling and two good stained glass windows. The church itself is almost entirely of the 1874 period, with exceptional curved golden oak pews, golden oak paneling, altar furniture and rail, and the slender cast iron columns with crocket caps. The cornice is sheet metal as are the full length ribs simulating exposed ceiling beams typical of the period. The walls and ceiling are stucco over brick and are in need of waterproofing and repainting. The three sided overhanging balcony which surrounds the nave is of the 1874 era.

The interior of the second floor of Mt. Moriah is an excellent example, in basically good condition, of the period and should be retained as is. The exterior is in need of some masonry (mainly pointing) and window frame and cornice repair, but is of high architectural quality, and is an excellent example of its period and plays an important visual role on Franklin Street because of its immediate proximity to the County Courthouse. Mt. Moriah is one of Annapolis' hidden architectural treasures, is of paramount importance in black history, and should be preserved at all costs.

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SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable a	and Known)		
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check	One or More as Approp	riate)	
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Church has occupied a unique place in the life of black Americans, especially the independent black churches. It was the first institution created by "free persons of color." As blacks were barred from most areas of American life, the Church provided the spiritual and moral leadership and the social, civic and cultural services that sustained the black community. Mt. Moriah's congregation dates back to 1803 and possibly as early as 1799. It was founded by free blacks trying to get a foothold in American society and to be useful citizens. Its building is a Maryland historic treasure. Built in 1874, Mt. Moriah A.M.E. Church is the only building in the Historic District of Annapolis with both black historic significance and architectural distinction. Mt. Moriah is the appropriate place for a museum of Afro-American history and culture in the City of Annapolis.

The land on which Mt. Moriah Church stands was purchased June 18, 1874, from John H. Smith, John C. Smith and Harriet Smith by the Trustees of the "African Methodist Episcopal Church in United States of America" for the express purpose of building on it a "house of worship." For the sum of \$450.00 Henry Cooper, James Boardley, John W. Hall, Charles T. Harris and Loudon Pinkney, Trustees of the African Methodist Church, became owners of the lot fronting 60 feet on Doctor Street (now Franklin) with an 80 foot depth. The present church structure, whose architect is unknown, was probably begun the year of its purchase, although the title Mt. Moriah was not used until 1876. The land itself, was originally part of Stoddert's Lot #59, one of the Glebe lands given to St. Anne's Parish and leased by the Parish to Daniel Dulany I, until 1810, when the leasehold expired. Seven years later Thomas Brown, the next lessee, assigned the residue of this lease term to John Shaw. A lot of ground which was a part of this property on Doctor Street in the rear of the present Anne Arundel County Courthouse was purchased by Charity Foulks. Left By Charity to her granddaughter, Elizabeth Foulks Smith, wife of John H. Smith and mother of John C. Smith and Harriet Smith. A part of the property was later sold by John H. Smith and his children to the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Research is not complete on the chronological history of the congregation. Some attempt at forming a church may possibly have begun in 1799, but not until 1803 was the first African Methodist Episcopal Church of Annapolis established. The members probably worshipped at the time in

[see continuation sheet]

GPO 931-894

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Form 10-300a (July 1969)

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STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

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Maryland	
COUNTY	
Anne Arundel	
FOR NPS USE ON	LY .
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
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(Number all entries)

Mt. Moriah African Methodist Episcopal Church

#8. SIGNIFICANCE continued

a building on the outskirts of town, not far from the present Mt. Moriah. In 1816 the congregation became an associate of the General Conference of African Methodist Episcopal Bethel Church and continued to function as a congregation of that conference until after the turmoil of the Virginia Insurrection in the early 1830's. By 1840 there was but one African congregation and church in Annapolis, and that was under the aegis of the white Methodist Episcopal Church. There are indications that the "Bethel" constituents splintered, some joining the Methodist Episcopal congregations, some continuing to meet in private homes, as part of the original Bethel Congregation, and some becoming affiliates of the African Methodist Episcopal Union Church. In any event, the congregation bought land in 1850 near the present edifice. Here they constructed their frame church, which was later removed to Camp Parole, on the outskirts of Annapolis. The site of the present Mt. Moriah was legally acquired in 1874, the Parole mission in 1876 and the Mt. Moriah parsonage in 1884.

#9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES continued

Wright, James M., The Free Negro in Maryland, 1634-1860, New York: 1921

Calvary United Methodist Church, Annapolis Station, Quarterly Conference Minutes, 1826-1846

Buckley, J. M., History of Methodism, Vol. I & II, New York: 1898

Form 10-301 (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE	
Maryland	
COUNTY	
Anne Arundel	
FOR NPS USE ONL	Y
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

	COMMON: Mt. Moriah African Methodist Episcopal Church	
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2.	LOCATION	
	STREET AND NUMBER:	
	84 Franklin Street	
	CITY OR TOWN:	
	Annapolis	
	STATE: CODE COUNTY:	
	Maryland	CO
3.	MAP REFERENCE	003
	SOURCE:	
	Historic Appanolis Anchitactural Communication	
	Historic Annapolis Architectural Survey Longitude & Latitude Map	
	1.1200	
	IDATE: 1970 REQUIREMENTS	,

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

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- 2. North arraw.
- 3. Latitude and langitude reference.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

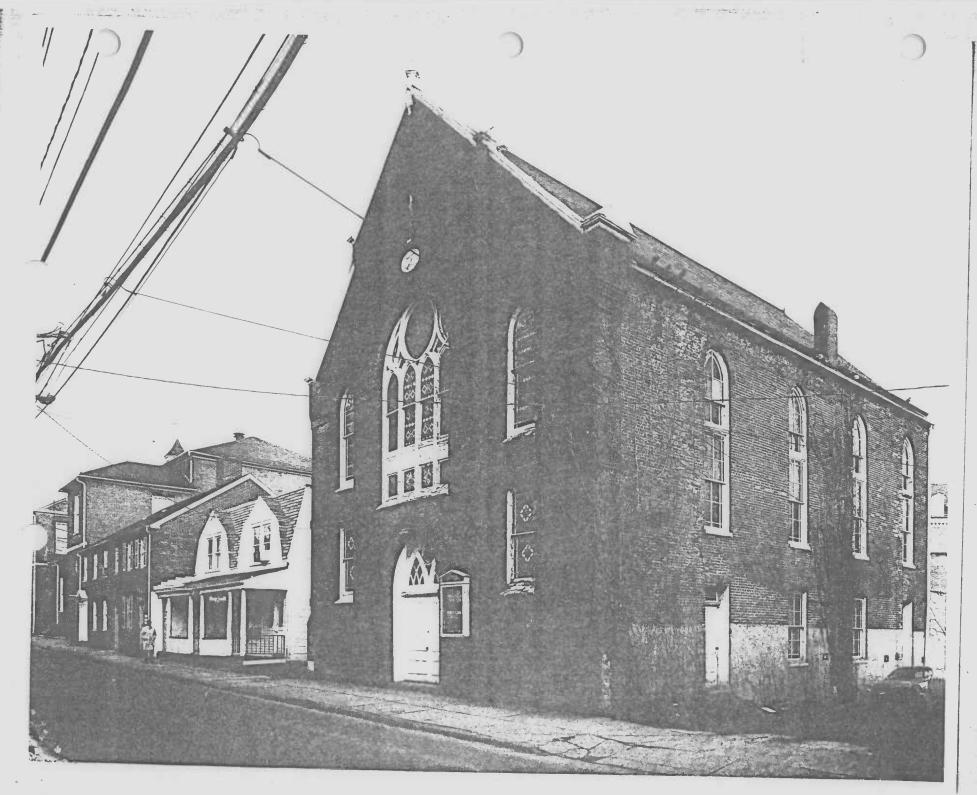
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2.	LOCATION							
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GPO 921-737



CAPSULE SUMMARY Mount Moriah African Methodist Episcopal Church (AA-506) 82-84 Franklin Street, Annapolis

The Mount Moriah African Methodist Episcopal Church at 82-84 Franklin Street was constructed in 1875 by bridge builder Nathaniel P. Clow. The Gothic Revival style building served as the meeting hall for the First African Methodist Episcopal Church, formed in the 1790s for nearly one hundred years. The building was extensively remodeled with fashionable Victorian Gothic embellishments following a violent storm in 1896. In 1970, the meeting hall and its associated parish house were sold to Anne Arundel County. The focus of a lengthy preservation battle, the two-story building was ultimately leased to the Maryland Commission on African-American History and Culture, becoming the state's official museum for African-American history and culture. The museum, opened in 1984, is named in honor of scientist Benjamin Banneker and the abolitionist/orator, Frederick Douglass, both natives of Maryland. The Banneker-Douglass Museum was listed individually on the National Register of Historic Places in 1974.

The Mount Moriah Church is a two-and-a-half-story, front gable church executed in the Gothic Revival style. The church is constructed of brick, laid in six-course American bond. It features a finely laid, pressed brick facade with three brick belt courses dividing the building into three horizontal bands; brownstone imposts accentuating buttress shoulders; pointed arch Gothic windows with stained glass; and decorative brickwork including a crow-stepped gable end and corbeling. Set upon a brick foundation, the church is covered with a gable roof, with flared ends, and is clad with slate. On the interior, the church follows a typical auditorium plan, where the sanctuary is located on the second floor and a school and meeting room on the first floor. In 1984, when the building opened as the Banneker-Douglass Museum, the interior was altered to accommodate office space on the first floor and museum exhibition space in the sanctuary proper. A two-and-a-half-story addition, made to the rear of the building as part of its 1984 renovation, extends the structure from four to five bays deep.

Inventory No. AA-506

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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1. Name of F	Property	(indicate preferred	l name)			
historic	Mount Morial	African Methodist E	Episcopal Chur	rch		
other	Banneker Dou	glass Museum				
2. Location						
street and number	82-84 Franklii	n Street		*****	not for	publication
city, town	Annapolis				vicinity	/
county	Anne Arundel					
3. Owner of	Property	(give names and mailin	ng addresses of a	all owners)		
name	Anne Arundel	County				
street and number	Arundel Cente	er, PO Box 1831		telephon	e	
city, town	Annapolis	<u>, i de como de de como de com</u>	state MD	zip code	21404	
4. Location	of Legal De	escription			<u> </u>	
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7.	Desc	rip	tion

Inventory No. AA-506

Condition

excellent	deteriorated
$\underline{\mathrm{X}}$ good	ruins
fair	altered

Prepare both a one-paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Built ca. 1876, but substantially rebuilt in 1896 following a fire, the Mount Moriah Church at 84 Franklin Street in downtown Annapolis is a two-and-a-half-story, front gable church executed in the Gothic Revival style. The church is constructed of brick, laid in six-course American bond. It features a finely laid, pressed brick facade with three brick belt courses dividing the building into three horizontal bands; brownstone imposts accentuating buttress shoulders; pointed arch Gothic windows with stained glass; and decorative brickwork including a crowstepped gable end and corbeling. Set upon a brick foundation, the church is covered with a gable roof, with flared ends, and is clad with slate. On the interior, the church follows a typical auditorium plan, where the sanctuary is located on the second floor and a school and meeting room on the first floor. In 1984, when the building opened as the Banneker-Douglass Museum, the interior was altered to accommodate office space on the first floor and museum exhibition space in the sanctuary proper. A two-and-a-half-story addition, made to the rear of the building as part of its 1984 renovation, extends the structure from four to five bays deep.

Exterior Description:

The northwest facade facing Franklin Street is a vertically massed, gable-fronted elevation divided into three bays, including a projecting central entry bay, and lesser side-aisle bays. Three broad brick belt courses extending across the facade provide a counter-balance to the building's verticality while also serving as sills and lintels for the buildings various window openings. Dominating the facade is the central, projecting pavilion, articulated by a pointed-arch entry on the first story and a large pointed-arch, stained glass window above.

The first story of the facade consists of a wide, pointed-arch entry located on center of the central pavilion and two, flanking double-hung, stained-glass windows to either side. The entry arch, formed by gauged bricks and surrounded by soldier-course brick molding, contains a pair of double wood doors with pointed arch panels and a pointed-arch transom filled with molded wood geometric tracery. The imposts of the arch spring from the first four-brick-wide belt course. To either side of the central entry are single, stained glass, rectangular wood windows with stone sills and brownstone corner blocks, on level with, and interrupting the first brick belt course. A second four-course brick belt course is located immediately above the first story windows, becoming, in fact, a jack-arched lintel above each of the doors.

The second story of the facade includes, most prominently, the large pointed-arch stained glass window on center, and two flanking pointed-arch, stained glass windows to either side. The large, central window consists of four, molded wood tracery windows supporting a large rose window set immediately under the keystone of the pointed arch opening. The arch, which springs from the third belt course, is formed of brick voussoirs and is surrounded by a soldier-course brick molding. Smaller windows to either side similarly spring from the brick belt course acting as impost, and are formed by brick voussoirs, and stone keystones. Above these windows is the attic level of the gable end wall, decorated by crow-stepped brick corbeling, and capped by a metal cornice with a stone finial at the apex. All of the windows on the facade are protected behind fixed, plate glass storm windows.

Inventory No. AA-506

Mount Moriah African Methodist Episcopal Church, 82-84 Franklin Street, Annapolis Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 2

The southwest side elevation is five bays deep with a contemporary, stucco-clad raised foundation level. The original four bays of the building are articulated by rectangular, double-hung sash on the first story and long and narrow pointed-arch stained glass windows on the second story. One exception to this is found in the first bay of the first story where there is a wood paneled (fixed) door instead of a window. The fifth bay, toothed into the brick wall, consists of three superimposed 1/1 double-hung windows separated by spandrel panels.

The northeast side elevation is identical to that of the southwest with four original bays articulated by pointed-arch stained glass windows on the second story, and single, double-hung sash on the first story. Again, all of the windows have plate glass protective coverings in front of them. Three 1/1 windows on each of the three floors articulate the rear addition.

The rear elevation of the historic building is no longer exposed, as the rear addition abuts it, extending to the original building's cornice line, and revealing the gable end of the original building behind it. The rear wall of the addition has single windows on all three floors in the center bay.

Interior Description:

The interior of the church offers a typical auditorium plan with the sanctuary on the second floor and a school and meeting room on the first floor. In 1984, when the building opened as the Banneker-Douglass Museum, the interior was significantly altered to accommodate office space on the first floor and museum exhibition space in the sanctuary proper.

The first floor of the church is entered through the set of double doors on center of the facade. The doors open directly into the front room, or entry vestibule that is a collage of historic and contemporary fabric and features. Original boxed, quarter-turn stairs, leading to the sanctuary level, are located to either side of the central entry, with closets tucked in under them. The walls of the closets and stairs feature the original tongue and groove paneling as does the ceiling, though the floor is laid in contemporary tile. A contemporary reception desk is built into a canted wall surface, while a metal door leads to the contemporary office space and another metal door into bathroom facilities.

The stairs feature typical carpenter-gothic detailing, namely, flat, tongue and groove banister walls with scroll-sawn, cutouts in a stylized fleur-de-lis pattern in the upper portion of each board. The stairs ascend to the sanctuary level where a stair landing opens through a pair of six-paneled double doors into the sanctuary proper. The sanctuary is one large open space with an altar at one end and a gallery level along the other three sides. The gallery is supported by fluted iron columns with stylized leaf capitals, and features a paneled balustrade wall. A glass balustrade and railing atop the original gallery wall provides additional protection. The altar is raised above the level of the nave, and the choir is recessed behind a large arched opening. The choir is articulated with wood wainscoting, decorated with pointed-arch panels, while the side walls feature beaded

Inventory No. AA-506

Mount Moriah African Methodist Episcopal Church, 82-84 Franklin Street, Annapolis Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 3

board wainscoting below the pointed-arch windows. The double-height ceiling is coved, with contemporary lighting. The sanctuary floor is covered with carpeting.

8. Significance			Inventory No. AA-506	
Period	Areas of Significance	Check and ju	ustify below	
1600-1699 1700-1799 X 1800-1899 X 1900-1999 X 2000-	agriculture archeology X architecture art commerce communications community planning conservation	 economics education engineering entertainment/ recreation ethnic heritage exploration/ settlement 	health/medicine performing arts industry philosophy invention politics/government landscape architecture X religion law science literature social history maritime history transportation military other:	
Significance da	tes 1875/1896-1971		Architect Unknown	
Specific dates	1875; 1896; 1984		Builder Nathaniel P. Clow	
Evaluation for:				
	National Register	M	faryland Register <u>X</u> not evaluated	

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The Mount Moriah African Methodist Episcopal Church at 82-84 Franklin Street was constructed in 1875 by bridge builder Nathaniel P. Clow. The Gothic Revival style building served as the meeting hall for the First African Methodist Episcopal Church, formed in the 1790s for nearly one hundred years. The building was extensively remodeled with fashionable Victorian Gothic embellishments following a violent storm in 1896. In 1970, the meeting hall and its associated parish house were sold to Anne Arundel County. The focus of a lengthy preservation battle, the two-story building was ultimately leased to the Maryland Commission on African-American History and Culture, becoming the state's official museum for African-American history and culture. The museum, opened in 1984, is named in honor of scientist Benjamin Banneker and the abolitionist/orator, Frederick Douglass, both natives of Maryland. The Banneker-Douglass Museum was listed individually on the National Register of Historic Places in 1974.

Site History

The property on which the Mount Moriah Church was constructed was granted to St. Anne's Parish, located in the center of Church Circle. Stoddert's map indicates the three lots (59, 60, and 61) were owned by St. Anne's Parish, and remained unimproved under their custody. According to a 1742 act of Assembly, the Parish was given permission to lease the lots for twenty-one years to "such persons as might be willing and desirous to receive such Lease of the Lots aforesaid, or some of them, and to Build on and otherwise improve the same." A second act of Assembly was granted in 1747 that extended the period of the lease to sixty-three years with an annual fee of four pounds sterling. This second act was needed, as the Parish had been unable to lease the property, because the twenty-one year lease was not considered profitable by prospective investors. With the provisions of the new act, the Parish successfully leased all three lots within months.

As noted in the Lot Histories prepared as part of the NEH project, Lot 59 in Parcel 29 was a narrow rectangular parcel of land. It was bounded by Church Circle on the east, Doctor Street (now Franklin Street) to the north,

¹ Bernard Christian Steiner, ed. Archives of Maryland, Volume XLII: Proceedings and Acts of the General Assembly of Maryland, Volume 20, 1740 to 1744. (Baltimore, MD: Maryland Historical Society, 1923), p. 432.

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Mount Moriah African Methodist Episcopal, 82-84 Franklin Street, Annapolis Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 2

Cathedral Street to the west, and Temple Street to the south. Temple Street, no longer existing, divided Lots 58 and 59 from Church Circle to Cathedral Street. Additionally, at the intersection of Temple Street with Church Circle, South Street diagonally ran to the south of Lot 58. With the loss of Temple Street, and the expansion of the courthouse complex, Lots 58 and 59 were joined to create one large lot. It is bounded by Church Circle to the east, Franklin Street to the north, Cathedral Street to the west and South Street to the southeast.

The church leased the property, designated as Stoddert Lot 59, to Daniel Dulany for a period of sixty-three years. Unlike other leaseholders elsewhere in Annapolis, Dulany retained title to the property on Lot 59 rather than subleasing it. After the death of the elder Dulany in 1753, his son Daniel II managed the family property. All available evidence suggests that the land remained under the direction of Daniel II until his death in 1779, at which time his holdings descended to his wife Rebecca and son Benjamin. Additionally, there is no evidence that the property was improved while leased by the Dulanys.²

In 1810, the Vestry minutes of the Parish indicate the lease held by the Dulany family had expired. Thus, in 1812, the property was rented to Thomas Brown. Brown then subleased it in 1817 to John Shaw for ninety-nine years for the price of \$150. Shaw purchased the land outright from the Parish in July 1818. Shaw advertised Lot 59 for sale in the *Maryland Gazette* "lately in possession of Mr. Thomas Brown...with 402 feet on Doctor Street and 82 feet on Church Circle and Cathedral Street. Basement of brick for 30' x 40' house built and materials to finish house also for sale." In December 1821, Shaw subdivided the lot, selling part of it to Jacob H. Slemaker for \$165. The subdivided lot consisted of 33' fronting Doctor Street, running 77' back to Temple Street. The Lot Histories indicate that this lot was the one subsequently improved by the construction of the Mount Moriah Church. On the same day, Shaw conveyed the eastern portion of the lot to the Mayor of Annapolis as the future site of the courthouse.

Charity Foulks, the widow of Thomas Foulks, indicated in her will that she had purchased the land from Somerville Pinkney, the trustee for Shaw. Foulks had gotten her manumission from Mary Ridout in December 1797. She owned the Franklin Street property from about 1817 until her death in 1835. Foulks bequeathed the property to her granddaughter, Elizabeth Foulks Smith. Upon the death of Foulks Smith, the property was transferred to her husband, John Smith.

Trustees of the African Methodist Episcopal (A.M.E.) Church for the purpose of constructing the Mount Moriah African Methodist Episcopal Church at 82-84 Franklin Street bought the property on June 18, 1874 from John

² Edward Papenfuse and Jane McWilliams, "Southern Urban Society after the Revolution: Annapolis, Maryland, 1782-1786." Final Report for NEH Grant #H69-0-178, Historic Annapolis Foundation, 1969, p. 482.

³ Maryland Gazette, October 8, 1818.

⁴ Papenfuse and McWilliams, p. 483.

⁵ Anne Arundel County Court Records, Liber NH 9, Folio 42. December 6, 1797.

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Mount Moriah African Methodist Episcopal, 82-84 Franklin Street, Annapolis Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 3

H. Smith, John C. Smith, and Harriet Smith. Purchased for \$450, the lot measured sixty feet on Doctor Street (now Franklin Street) and extended eighty feet to the center of the square. The deed of conveyance indicates the property was improved with single-family dwellings. Trustees for the church included Henry Cooper, James Boardley, John W. Hall, Charles T. Harris, and Loudoun Pinkney.

The congregation of the church appears to date to the 1790s. However, the first documented establishment of the African Methodist Episcopal Church in the City of Annapolis did not occur until 1803. In December of that year, the church purchased 2,050 square feet of property from Smith Price for fifteen pounds. The land, historically part of Acton, was intended as the site of the first meeting house. In 1816, the congregation joined the General Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Bethel Church, part of a broader movement to establish an independent conference of black Methodist churches. The church, although made up of free African Americans, was technically under the supervision of the white Methodist Episcopal Conference. In Annapolis, by the 1840s, only one African American congregation was in existence. The parishioners worshipped in a building located on the outskirts of the city on West Street. For reasons unknown, in September 1849, the Mayor and Council ordered that the African Meeting House had to be closed. Services commenced two years later, in 1850.

Richard A. Embry, in *History of Mount Moriah African Methodist Episcopal Church*, indicates that the congregation improved the property on Franklin Street as early as the fall of 1874. This first building, a modest wood frame meeting hall, appears to have been located near the present site of the Mount Moriah Church. Two years later, in 1876, the congregation relocated the meeting hall to a larger site in Parole.

Subsequent to the relocation of the wood frame building, however, a new brick church building was erected on Franklin Street. The cornerstone was laid at the September 29, 1875 dedication. Parishioners included four coins in the cornerstone, each coinciding with important dates in the church's history. The Maryland Gazette reported the event:

The colored people of the Bethel Church in this city on Tuesday laid the cornerstone of the new brick church on Doctor Street. The procession formed of the Children of the Order of the Rising Sun, the Knights of Samaria, Odd Fellows, a company of infantry with muskets, headed by marshals on horseback, a drum corps and brass band proceeded through the principal streets of the town to the church, where the services were opened by the Reverend John Lane and the Reverend James H. A. Johnson of Ebenezer Church, Baltimore preached the sermon. The stone contains the names of the President and Vice President of the United States, Governor of

⁶ Anne Arundel County Land Records, Liber NH 12, Folio 218.

⁷ "Mount Moriah African Methodist Episcopal Church, National Register of Historic Places Inventory Nomination Form," prepared by Russell Wright and Phoebe Jacobsen, October 1972.

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Mount Moriah African Methodist Episcopal, 82-84 Franklin Street, Annapolis Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 4

Maryland, City Council of Annapolis, officers, builders and building committee of the church, Bible, hymn book and discipline of the church, and portrait of the first Bishop Reverend Richard Allen, of the African M.E. Church. The church is 38 feet by 58 feet, being built of brick, and is to cost between six and seven thousand dollars.⁸

Historic maps, specifically the map produced by Gray in 1877, document the existence of a building(s) on the property during this period. The 1878 "City of Annapolis" map prepared by G.M. Hopkins delineates that the site contained a brick building occupied by the Mount Moriah A.M.E. church. Builder Nathaniel Clow erected the building. Clow, born in Ohio about 1830, was owner of a local brickyard and was responsible for constructing bridges. Reverend Jonathan Hamilton was the first preacher at the new church.

The church continued to serve the African-American population of Annapolis, with the Reverend J.D. Hill presiding. By 1939, the African-American population constituted nearly 2,000 of the 12,350 persons living in the state capital at that time. Of the twenty-three churches in Annapolis in 1939, at least five of those including Mount Moriah were for the African American population.

In 1970, the Trustees of the church sold the property to the Anne Arundel County for \$123,000. County efforts to demolish the building were blocked by the city's Historic District Commission and preservation groups, and finally by the Maryland Court of Appeals. Accordingly, in 1984, the building was leased to the State of Maryland for ninety-nine years. The Mount Moriah African Methodist Episcopal Church was individually placed on the National Register of Historic Places. Under the direction of Leon Bridges, the building was then renovated and enlarged for use as the Bannaker-Douglass Museum, a center for museum exhibitions on the history and contributions of African-American Marylanders who were instrumental in the development of the state and nation. The museum was named in honor of two of Maryland's most prominent African Americans, scientist Benjamin Banneker and abolitionist/orator, Frederick Douglass.

Chain of Title

1694:

Lot 59 surveyed for Vestry of St. Anne's Parish

Archives of Maryland XIX, Folio 110

1747:

Vestry of St. Anne's Parish leased Lot 59 to Daniel Dulany for 63 years

Archives of Maryland XLIV, Folio 660

1812:

Vestry of St. Anne's Parish leased to Thomas Brown

Vestry Minutes II, Folio 277

⁸ Maryland Gazette, September 30, 1875.

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Mount Moriah African Methodist Episcopal, 82-84 Franklin Street, Annapolis Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 5

1817:

Thomas Brown conveyed lease to John Shaw

Anne Arundel County Land Records

Liber WGS 5 Folio 437

July 6, 1818:

Vestry of St. Anne's Parish to John Shaw

Anne Arundel County Land Records

Liber WSG 6 Folio 30

December 27, 1821:

John Shaw to Jacob H. Slemaker

Part of Lot 59

Anne Arundel County Land Records

Liber WSG 8 Folio 301

Somerville Pinkney, the trustee for Shaw, to Charity Foulks, the widow of Thomas

Foulks

September 4, 1852:

Thomas Franklin, Trustee, to Elizabeth Foulks Smith, heir of Charity Foulks

Land Records of Anne Arundel County

Liber NHG 1 Folio 434

June 18, 1874:

Elizabeth Foulks Smith bequeathed to John H. Smith

Will Records of Anne Arundel County

Liber TTS 1 Folio 212

June 18, 1874:

John H. Smith, John C. Smith, and Harriet Smith, heirs, to Trustees of the African

Methodist Episcopal Church

Land Records of Anne Arundel County

Liber SH 8 Folio 433

May 28, 1970:

Trustees of the Mount Moriah AME Church of Annapolis to Anne Arundel County

Land Records of Anne Arundel County

Liber 2344 Folio 781

Inventory No. AA-506

Mount Moriah African Methodist Episcopal, 82-84 Franklin Street, Annapolis **Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 6

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:

Western Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period(s): Industrial/Urban Dominance (1870-1930)

Modern Period (1930-present)

Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning

Religion

Resource Type:

Category:

Building

Historic Environment:

Town

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): RELIGION/Religious Facility

Known Design Source:

Unknown

9. Major Bibliographical References

Green, Jr., Carroll, "The Mount Moriah A.M.E. Church, A Documentary Report: Background and Potential." Prepared for the Commission on Negro History and Culture. October 20, 1972.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of project area Acreage surveyed

Quadrangle name

less than one acre

Annapolis, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The former church at 82-84 Franklin Street has been associated with Parcel 746, Grid 15 on Map 4Z since its construction in in 1875.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	L. Trieschmann and K. Williams, Architectural Historians	
organization	EHT Traceries, Inc.	
street & number	5420 Western Avenue	
city or town	Chevy Chase, Maryland 20815	

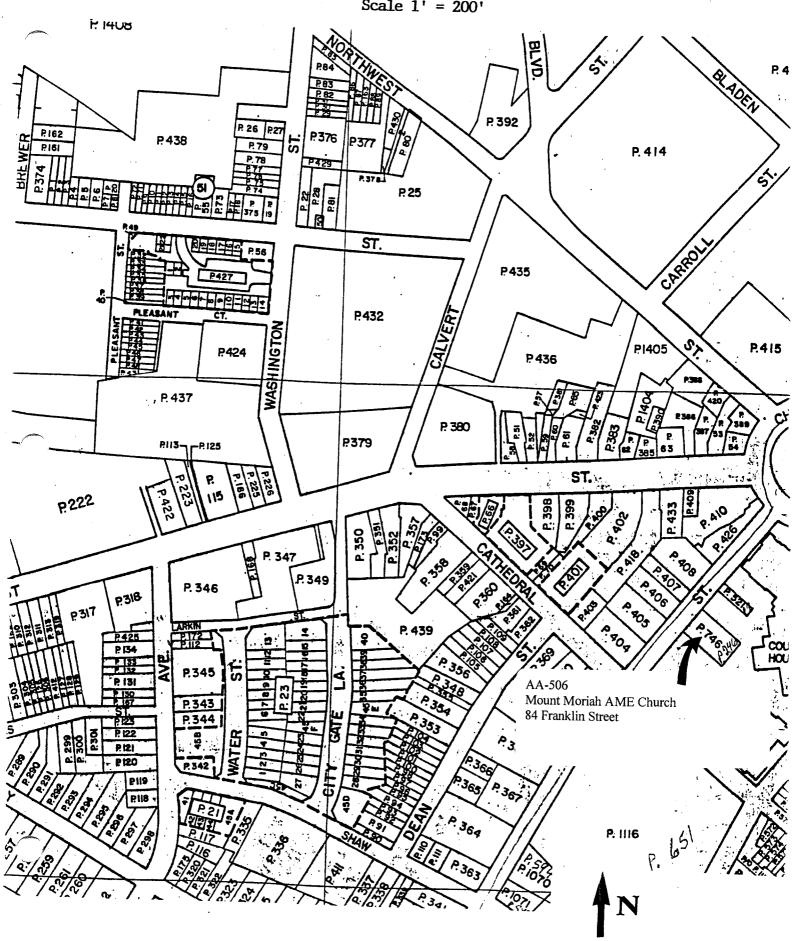
The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to:

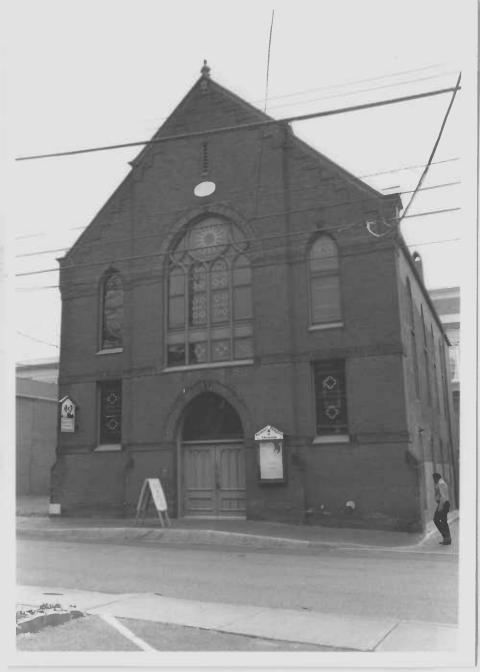
Maryland Historical Trust DHCD/DHCP 100 Community Pllace Crownsville, MD 21032 410-514-7600

MAP OF ANNAPOLIS, No.4-6
Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation
1967; Revised 1991
Scale 1' = 200'





AA-506 84 FRANKLIN STREET ANNAPOLIS, MD TRACERIES MD SHPO NE ELEVATION, LOOKING SW 1 OF 11



AA-506 84 FRANKLIN STREET ANNAPOLIS, MD TRACERIES 4/2000 MD Sttpo NW ELEVATION, LOOKING SE 2 OF 11



AA-506 84 FRANKLIN STREET ANNAPOUS TRACERIES MD SHPO EAST ELEVATION, LOOKING SOUTHWEST 3 OF 11



AA-506 84 FRANKLIN STREET ANNAPOLIS, MD TRACERIES 4/2000

SE ELEVATION, LOOKING SW

MD STPO

4 OF 11



AA-506 84 FRANKLIN STREET ANNAPOLIS, MD TRACERIES 4/2000 MD SHPO WEST CORNER, LOOKING EAST 5 OF 11



AA-506 84 FRANKLIN STREET ANNAPOLIS, MD TRALERIES 5/2000 MD SHPO

RECEPTION DESK

6 OF 11



AA-506
MT MORIAH CHURCH
84 FRANKUN STREET
ANNAPOLIS, MD
TRACERIES
5/2000
MD SHPO

ENTRY HALL

7 OF 11



AA-506
84 FRANKLIN STREET
ANNAPOLIS, MD
TRACERIES
5/2000
MD SHPO
SANCTUARY AND GALLERY
8 OF 11



AA-506
84 FRANKLIN STREET
ANNAPOLIS, MD
TKACERIES
5/2000
MD SHPO
SANCTUARY FROM ALTAR
9 OF 11



AA-506 84 FRANKLIN STREET ANNAPOLIS, MD TRACERIES 5/2000 MD SHPO STAIR

10 OF 11



ANNAPOUS, MD

TRACERIES

5/2000

MD SHPO

SANCTUARY FROM BALLERY

11 OF 11

84 FRANKUN STREET

AA - 506

	•
	SURVEY NUMBER: 04 50
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST	SURVEY NUMBER: AA 506
21 STATE CIRCLE	
SHAW HOUSE	NEGATIVE FILE NUMBER:
NNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401	LIMIC DEPENDENCE
MICHIOLIS, IMMILMINE DI VOI	UTM REFERENCES:
HISTORIC SITES SURVEY FIELD SHEET	Zone/Easting/Northing
Individual Structure Survey Form	·
individual structure survey 1012	
	U.S.G.S. QUAD. MAP:
	PRESENT FORMAL NAME:
	Museum of
COUNTY: Anne Arundel	ORIGINAL FORMAL NAME: Mt. Morian AME Church
TOWN: Annapolis	
LOCATION: 84 Franklin Street	PRESENT USE: Museum
	ORIGINAL USE: Church
	ARCHITECT/ENGINEER:
COMMON NAME:	Leon Bridges, 1980-83 alterations
ming of the confidence of the	BUILDER/CONTRACTOR:
FUNCTIONAL TYPE: Church Map 32 Par 246	DWGTGAT COUNTY TO CO
OWNER: Anne Arundel County	PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE:
ADDRESS: Arundel Center	Excellent(X) Good()
Annapolis, MD 21401	Fair() Poor:()
ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC:	THEME:
Yes(X) No () Restricted() LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Nat. Reg. Local() State (\(\sqrt{)} \) National()	STYLE: Victorian Gothic
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Nat. Reg.	DATE BUILT: 1874, 1894, 1983
Local() State (\(\sqrt{)}\) National()	10/4, 1034, 1303
GENERAL DESCRIPTION:	
Structural System 1. Foundation: Stone()Brick(X)Concrete()Concrete Block()	
1	
2. Wall Structure	
A. Wood Frame: Post and Beam()Balloon()	
B. Wood Bearing Masonry: Brick(X)Stone()Concrete()Concrete Block() C. Iron() D. Steel() E. Other:	
3. Wall Covering: Clapboard()Board and Batten()Wood Shingle()Shiplap() Novelty()Stucco()Sheet Metal()Aluminum()Asphalt Shingle()	
Brick Veneer(X)Stone Veneer() Asbestos Shingle()	
4. Roof Structure	Other:
A. Truss: Wood(X)Iron()Steel()Concrete()	
B. Other:	
5. Roof Covering: Slate(X)Wood Shingle()Asphalt Shingle()Sheet Metal()	
Built Up()Rolled()Tile()Other:	
6. Engineering Structure:	
7. Other:	
Appendages: Porches()Towers()Cupolas()Dormers()Chimneys(X)Sheds()Ells(X)	
Wings ()Other:	
Roof Style: Gable(X)Hip()Shed()Flat()Ma	nsard()Gambrel()Jerkinbead()
Saw Tooth() With Monitor() With Bellcas	
Other:	
1	
Number of Stories: 2 1/2 Number of Bays: 3 x 4	Entrance Location: Centered
Approximate Dimensions: 40 x 90	
1	
THREAT TO STRUCTURE:	LOCAL ATTITUDES:
No Threat(X)Zoning()Roads()	Positive()Negative()
Development()Deterioration()	Mixed() Other:
Alteration ()Other:	
- ·	

ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL OR STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

AA-506

Pointed Gothic windows at front flank large pointed arched openings, second floor with superb Rose window, first with paneled double doors; projecting central pavillion; end pilasters with corbeling and triangular finials; belt courses and watertable; oval date block in pavilion; recently recycled for use as museum.

RELATED STRUCTURES:

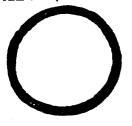
(Describe)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

Important Gothic Revival Church with good detailing; critical to streetscape; of State importance to Black history, to be used as a museum of same.

REFERENCES:

MAP: (Indicate North In Circle)



SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:

Roadside Strip Development()

Open Lane()Woodland()Scattered Buildings()
Moderately Built Up()Densely-Built Up()
Residential()Commercial()
Agricultural()Industrial()

Other:

RECORDED BY:

Russell Wright

ORGANIZATION:

Historic Annapolis, Inc.

DATE RECORDED:

Ug. 1983

Form 10-445 (5/62)

3718

<u>u</u>_0

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGPAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON

COUNTY
TOWN
STREET NO. 84 Franklin Street

ORIGINAL OWNER African Methodist Church
ORIGINAL USE Church
PRESENT OWNER Mt. Moriah A. M. E. Church
PRESENT USE Church
WALL CONSTRUCTION brick
NO. OF STORIES

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
INVENTORY

2 NAME Mt. Moriah A.M.E. Church

DATE OR PERIOD 1874 STYLE Victorian ARCHITECT BUILDER

3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION

OPEN TO PUBLIC

yes

A remarkable building. Typical layout with auditorium upstairs and typical Victorian interior. Exterior is a combination of fine brick work and very fine period stained glass windows. Brick work consists of belt courses, splayed lintels, gothic arches (brownstone key stones) and decorative raised stepped gable end. Very fine window layout - all original glass - with some motifs set in the highly decorative, polychromatic patterness, an "alladin's lamp" resting on a book. Original cornice is topped by wooden finial. Church is excellent example of period and a delight to look at.



good

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE

6. LOCATION MAP (Flan Optional)

B. PUBLISHED SOURCBS (Author, Title, Pages)
INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.

Rev. Nash

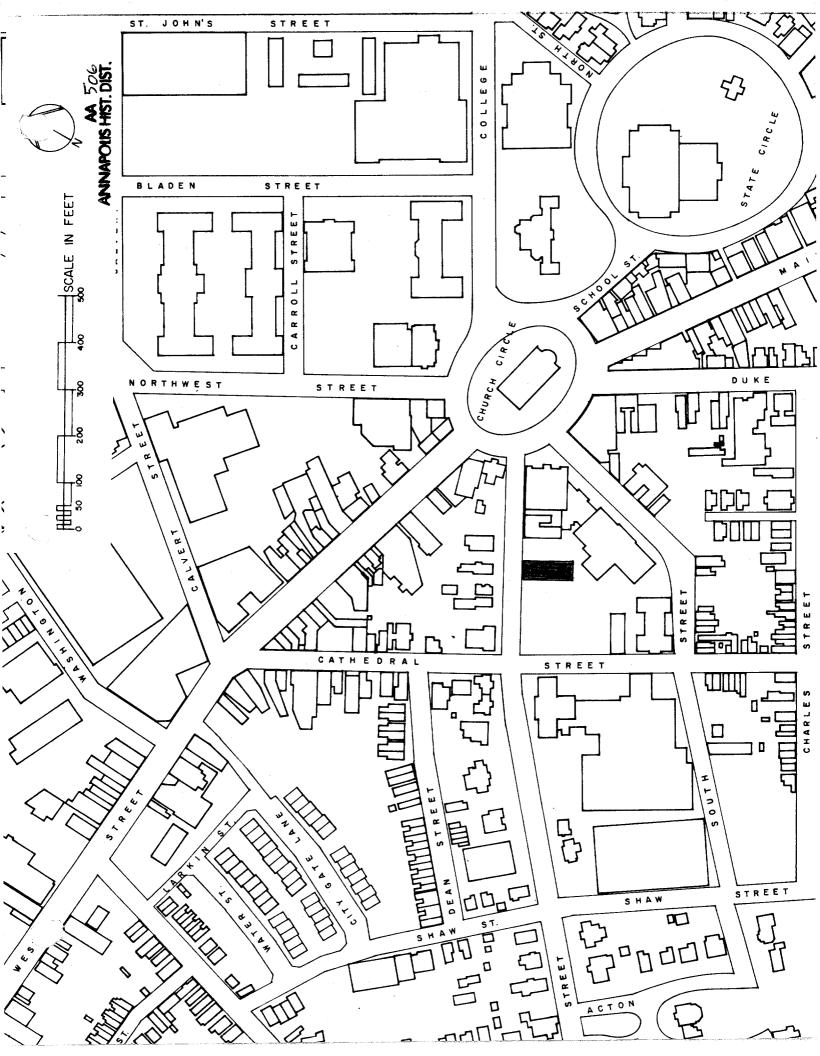
7. PHOTOGRAPH

9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER

William D. Morgan Columbia University New York City

DATE OF RECORD June 26, 1967

9403





PHOTOGRAPH BY
WILLIAM D. MORGAN

Mt. Moriah Church 84 Franklin St.



84 Franklin

An 506

Annapolis, Anne Arundel County
Russell Wright

Maryland Historical Trust,
Annapolis, Maryland

ME Elevation/camera facing Sw



Anp. mt. moriah church 84 Spanhlin tt.

AN-5-1

AA-500

PHOTO CREDIT, Please, . . . to

M.E. Warren

P. O. Box 1508 Annapolis, Maryland

Maryland Illustrated File #

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